GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1026
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2002
SUPPLY OF WATER TO RAJASTHAN FROM BHAKRA AND PONG DAMS
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of non-supply of water to Rajasthan due to non filling of designed full reservoir level of Bhakra and Pong Dams;

(b) if so, whether due to continued severe drought in Rajasthan for the fourth consecutive year, water supply in the State is further worsened;

(c) if so, whether the Government are considering to fill the reservoir level of these two dams to ensure supply of water to the State; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) & (b) Rajasthan is being supplied water from Bhakra and Pong Dams as per decisions taken in the monthly Technical Committee meetings of the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB), inter alia represented by Rajasthan, based on various agreements among the partner States including Rajasthan, their indents to BBMB for water inflows and water availability in the reservoirs. As estimated by BBMB, water availability during the current depletion period (from 21st September to 20th May of the following year) is expected to be lower than that of last year and the shares of Rajasthan and other partner States would be decided accordingly.

(c) & (d) The filling of the reservoirs will depend on the inflows into them due to rainfall and snowfall / snowmelt in their catchments. The releases from the reservoirs are being made by BBMB to meet the drinking water and irrigation requirements of partner States including Rajasthan in an optimum manner.